

III. REMARKS

1. Claims 1-12 remain in the application. Claims 1, 7, 8, 11, and 12 have been amended.

Claim 7 has been amended to correct a typographical error. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended to maintain consistency among the claim elements. Claims 8, 11, and 12 have been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. The amendments to the claims are not limiting, are not made for reasons related to patentability, and do not raise issues of estoppel.

2. Applicants express their appreciation for the indication that claims 6 and 7 are allowed. Applicants also express their appreciation for the indication that claims 11 and 12 would be allowable upon overcoming the 35 USC 112 rejections. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 11 and 12 as amended are in condition for allowance.

3. Claims 1-5 and 8 are not anticipated by Charlton (US 5,929,774).

Charlton fails to disclose mounting a data communication device, having means for short-range radio frequency wireless data communication, in a general purpose expansion memory location of an electronic device, as recited in claims 1 and 8.

There is no disclosure in Charlton related to any kind of data communication device that would be mountable into a general memory expansion port of an electronic device in the manner indicated in the embodiments of the present invention. In the present invention, a short range data communication device is

provided for an electronic device that has no communication facility but does have an expansion memory location (see the specification , for example on page 4, lines 22-29 and Figures 2 and 4).

Charlton shows an item 58 in Figure 4, which is described as a memory unit. Memory unit 58 may be expandable, as described in column 6, lines 34-35. However, simply because a memory unit might be expandable does not mean it is a general purpose expansion memory location. Memory unit 58 appears to be an expandable memory specific to the device in Charlton, and not a general-purpose expansion memory location, for example, a Compact Flash or ATA type of expansion location as described in the present application. It is unclear how the memory unit 58 in Charlton would serve the same purpose as the data communication unit 8 (Figures 2 and 4) of the present invention.

Furthermore, Charlton has no disclosure related to mounting a communication device in memory unit 58. There is no indication that anything other than memory may be present in memory unit 58.

Applicants recognize that Charlton describes a patent (US 5,459,458) directed to a terminal utilizing an RF modem and operating as a pager. However, there is no mention of mounting a data communication device, having means for short-range radio frequency wireless data communication, in a general purpose expansion memory location of an electronic device, in the description of US 5,459,458.

Although Charlton is directed to a combination including a pager, Applicants wish to point out that Charlton's paging operation is not a wireless operation at all. As described in

column 6, lines 40-44, a user is paged at a preset telephone number through a modem connection to a telephone line.

Regardless, Applicants respectfully maintain that Charlton fails to disclose or suggest mounting a data communication device in a general purpose expansion memory location of an electronic device.

The present Office Action states in paragraph 6 that Charlton's Figure 4 shows the microprocessor element 54 functioning as a controller to control various devices such as a modem, clock, switch, alarm, memory, screen, keyboard, and accordingly a general purpose device. Also, the microprocessor, which is a controller, is connected to Charlton's system which is a general purpose device since it can do many things and accordingly, Charlton does teach a controller connectable to a general purpose device.

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Applicants suggest that this statement misconstrues the present invention. Rather than connecting a controller to a general purpose device, the present invention is directed to mounting a data communication device in a general purpose expansion memory location of an electronic device, as recited in claims 1 and 8.

Applicants respectfully submit that the finding of anticipation in the present Office Action may be based on impermissible hindsight because it requires knowledge beyond the level of ordinary skill in the art at the time the claimed invention was made and appears to include knowledge gleaned only from Applicants' disclosure.

At least for these reasons, Applicants submit that claims 1 and 8, and claims 2-5 by way of their dependency, are not anticipated by Charlton.

5. Claims 8, 9, and 10 are not anticipated by Erkkila et al. (US 6,219,560, hereinafter "Erkkila").

Erkkila fails to disclose a data communication device, having a controller connectable to a general purpose interface of an expansion memory location of an electronic device, for controlling the operation of the electronic device, as recited by claim 8.

The Office Action states that Erkkila shows many components in Figures 5, 6 and 7 and hence the CPU in Figure 5 is a controller connectable to the remainder of Figure 5 which is a general purpose device since it can do many things (audio, display, user interface, memory storage, DSP, etc.). In Figures 6 and 7, the element 69 is an expansion card which can inherently connect and thus expand to do many things.

Applicants respectfully submit that this statement does not address the invention which calls for a controller connectable to a general purpose interface of an expansion memory location. Figure 5 of Erkkila shows a block diagram of a mobile communications device that has a CPU ⁵¹~~50~~ and a miniature card interface 50 connected by a bus. Assuming for argument that the miniature card interface may be an expansion memory location, the CPU is not connected to the general purpose interface of the miniature card interface. The general purpose interface is represented by the double arrow and is the mechanism by which external devices may be connected. At best the CPU is only


connected by the internal bus which is clearly not a connection for external devices and thus not the general purpose interface.

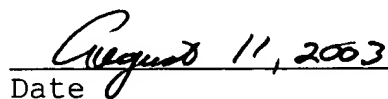
At least for these reasons, independent claim 8 and dependent claims 9 and 10 are not anticipated by Erkkila.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.

Respectfully submitted,


Joseph V. Gamberdell, Jr.
Reg. No. 44,695


Date

Perman & Green, LLP
425 Post Road
Fairfield, CT 06824
(203) 259-1800
Customer No.: 2512



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